

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 01361 261241Z

43

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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8809

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C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 1361

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, ECOSOC, AORG, FI (YRJO-KOSKINEN, KAARLO J.)

SUBJ: DIRECTOR, UN CENTER FOR TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

REF: USUN 3122

1. CORRECT NAME OF "KOSKINEN" IS BARON (HIS TITLE) KAARLO JUHANA YRJO-KOSKINEN (A HYPHENATED NAME). YRJO-KOSKINEN (Y-K) WAS BORN MARCH 26, 1930. HIS FATHER WAS GRADUATE ENGINEER AND MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY BARON JAAKO ERLAND Y-K. HE MARRIED IN 1957 ATHLETICS TEACHER REA LIESI. THEY HAVE GIRL BORN 1958, SON BORN IN 1959 AND SON BORN IN 1962. Y-K MATRICULATED IN 1948 AND RECEIVED DEGREE AS MASTER OF LAW IN 1955. HE MADE STUDY TRIPS DURING 1948-56 PERIOD TO SWEDEN, ENGLAND, WEST GERMANY AND FRANCE.

2. AFTER BRIEF EMPLOYMENT AS NOTARY IN ULFSBY DISTRICT, Y-K JOINED FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTRY (FM). HIS ASSIGNMENTS HAVE BEEN TO FINNISH CONSULATE, ROUEN 56-59; TO FM 57-59; TO FINNISH UN MISSION NEW YORK 60-62; WARSAW 62-64; TO FM 64-67; TO FINLAND'S MISSION AT GENEVA 67-68; TO FM 69-70. IN PERIOD 1970-74, Y-K WAS ON LEAVE FROM FM AS DIRECTOR ECE TRADE AND TECHNOLOGICAL DIVISION. IN 1968-70 PERIOD HE WAS MEMBER OF FINLAND'S
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PAGE 02 HELSIN 01361 261241Z

OECD DELEGATION, APPARENTLY COMMUTING FROM HELSINKI.

IN 1974 HE BECAME DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FM'S SO-CALLED COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT, WHICH ACTUALLY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ASPECTS OF FINLAND'S FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND TRADE POLICIES. SINCE DIRECTOR AARVO RYTKONEN OF THE COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT WAS NAMED ON JUNE 13 AS MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY IN NEW EXPERTS GOVERNMENT, Y-K HAS BEEN ACTING DIRECTOR OF COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT. HE ALSO HAS TAKEN AN IMPORTANT PART IN VARIOUS TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND IS VICE-MEMBER (NOW ACTING MEMBER VICE RYTKONEN) OF IMPORT LICENSING BOARD, WHICH RECOMMENDS LICENSING POLICY AND MEETS PERIODICALLY TO DECIDE DIFFICULT LICENSING APPEALS, ETC.

3. Y-K IS REGARDED BY EMBOFFS WHO KNOW HIM AS VERY COMPETENT WITH GOOD RECORD BEHIND HIM AND EXCELLENT PROSPECTS OF RISING TO TOP. HE SPEAKS WARMLY OF HIS DAYS IN NEW YORK IN 1960-62 AND WOULD WELCOME ANOTHER US ASSIGNMENT. HE HAS BEEN FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL TO OFFICERS AT THIS EMBASSY. HIS WIFE IS CHARMING AND ATTRACTIVE.
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